

Editorial



It is a pleasure (not to say, a mild relief) at last to welcome readers to the first part of *Freshwater Reviews*, Volume 7. Its production has been delayed by several factors, the most significant of which has been a dearth of acceptable submissions. As I have claimed here before, the value of good review papers is well recognised but few scientists working under today's constraints have the opportunity to prioritise their preparation.

Nevertheless, we include what we believe you will find to be interesting and topical treatments: the paper by Vladimir Matveev and Barbara Robson offers a comparison of the directions and efficiencies of carbon pathways through freshwater ecosystems, and considers the extent of subsidies provided by external carbon sources. The distinctive structures that they are able to sustain, the various functional limitations to which they are subject and the varying amounts of carbon that they sequester, store or release are all addressed. While this knowledge will be already familiar to many, the review provides several summary tabulations that many will find to be a very useful, citable reference.

Our other major contribution is an up-to-date assessment of the likely impacts of global climate change, specifically on freshwater systems. It is by Professor Brian Moss, whose experience and recent researches have added greatly to his authority in this field, both from the standpoint of his acquired knowledge and his ability to assemble such information into a broad overview. This particular article began life as a commissioned report on the effects of increasing temperature on the physiology and organismic population dynamics governing ecosystems. Indeed, Brian charts ways to view the processes characterising all aquatic systems that require our understanding, conservation and restoration.

As always, I am pleased to acknowledge the efforts of the authors, who have devoted time and skill in creating these reviews, and those of our referees, particularly in generating observations that enrich the finished articles. I am grateful to Louise Lavictoire, now back part-time from maternity leave, to Rosalind Maberly for ably deputising and to Karen Rouen for their assistance in assembling this edition of *Freshwater Reviews*.

Colin S. Reynolds

Editor

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